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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of the Rural District

FOR THE YEAR 1937,

BY

THOMAS O. GARLAND, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT for 1937.

HEALTH CENTRE,

MARKET STREET, KETTERING,

May, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kettering Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health
and Sanitary Conditions of the ~~Urban~~ District for 1937.
RURAL

I would like to thank the Clerk, Mr. Gillard, and the Sanitary
Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. Wallis, for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS O. GARLAND,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937 :—

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Area (Acres)	46,581	46,581	64,248	64,248	64,248
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	10,500	13,000	13,390	15,410	17,080
No. of Live births	134	143	242	379	418
Legitimate	130	137	235	373	413
Illegitimate	4	6	7	6	5
Birth rate per 1,000 population	12.7	11.0	18.07	24.6	24.47
Number of Still Births	...	...	...	16	19
Legitimate	...	...	Not available	16	19
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	40.51	43.48
Rate per 1,000 population	0.47	0.30	0.89	1.04	1.11
Number of Deaths	131	137	173	185	182
Death rate per 1,000 population (corrected)	12.40	9.50	11.40	10.69	9.44
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	59.00	69.00	63.50	68.6	66.99
Total Maternal Deaths	2	1	2	...	3
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	2	1	2	...	1
(b) Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	2
Death rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.57	0.62	0.37	0.39	0.06
Death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis	0.66	0.62	0.37	0.52	0.23

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 live Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Total deaths under 1 year.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years.
England and Wales	14.9	0.60	12.4	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.45	0.54	58	5.8
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) ...	14.9	0.67	12.5	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.39	0.45	62	7.9
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident population 25,000—50,000) ...	15.3	0.64	11.9	0.00	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.42	0.42	55	3.2
London	13.3	0.54	12.3	0.00	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.38	0.51	60	12.0
Kettering Rural District ...	24.47	1.11	9.44	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.23	0.70	66.99	2.39

Puerperal Sepsis. Others. Total.

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows :—

Per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.97	2.26	3.23
Per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.94	2.17	3.11

The maternal mortality rates for Kettering Rural District :—

Per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.39	4.78	7.17
Per 1,000 Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.29	4.58	6.87

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	64,248
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1937	...	...	...	...	17,080
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	5,474
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£95,376
Sum represented by Id. rate	...	...	...	...	£345 2s. 2d.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows :—Ironstone quarrying and Manufacture of iron, steel and steel tubes, Farming, Clothing manufacture, Manufacture of Boots and Shoes.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live-births :

			Total	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	...	...	413	195	218
Illegitimate	...	...	5	3	2
Totals	...	...	418	198	220

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 24·47

			Total	Males.	Females.
Still-births	...	...	19	11	8

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births ... 43·48

			Total	Males	Females.
Deaths	...	...	182	99	83

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 9·44

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	1
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 6·87

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	66·99
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	67·8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	15
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...		1

As compared with the year 1936 the birth-rate is lower by 0·13 per 1,000 of the population and the death rate is lower by 1·25.

The birth rate exceeds the death rate by 15·03 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of deaths registered was 182 of which 99 were males and 83 were females.

The crude death rate per 1,000 population for the year 1937 was 10·66 which, multiplied by the comparability factor 0·89, supplied by the Registrar-General, gave a corrected death rate of 9·44 as compared with 12·4 for England and Wales. This death rate of 9·44 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex constitution of the population of Kettering Rural District were distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

The REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH were as follows :—

	M.	F.	Total
All Causes	99	83	182
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Measles	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Influenza	3	1	4
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	1	1
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1	—	1
10. Other tuberculous diseases	2	1	3
11. Syphilis	—	—	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis, etc.	—	—	—
13. Cancer	7	8	15
14. Diabetes	—	1	1
15. Cerebral hæmorrhage	4	1	5
16. Heart Disease	20	35	55
17. Aneurism	—	—	—
18. Other circulatory diseases...	9	3	12
19. Bronchitis	—	3	3
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	5	3	8
21. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—

					M.		F.	Total
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
23.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	—	...	—	—
26.	Other diseases of liver	...	...	...	—	...	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	5	...	2	7
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	3	...	1	4
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	...	1	1
30.	Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	...	2	2
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	...	...	...	12	...	7	19
32.	Senility	...	...	...	—	...	2	2
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
34.	Other violence	...	...	...	5	...	6	11
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	15	...	4	19
	(a) Smallpox	...	...	...	—	...	—	—
	(b) Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	—	...	—	—
	(c) Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	...	—	—
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	4	...	1	5

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for Burton Latimer Urban District, Desborough Urban District and Rothwell Urban District, and is, in addition, Assistant County Medical Officer.

The office of Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor is a joint appointment and the officer is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The assistant Sanitary Inspector is also an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

2. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Clinical Research Association, Limited, London, and at the County Public Health Laboratory and the Northampton General Hospital Laboratory. The following specimens were examined :—

Swabs (for diphtheria)	...	...	...	22
Blood	...	...	...	1
Water	...	...	...	13

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by a motor ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital in Kettering Urban District and non-infectious and accident cases are removed by ambulance under the efficient administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

(1) *General*. The District Nursing Association affiliated to the County Nursing Association makes the services of whole time nurses available for general cases.

(2) *Infectious Diseases*. The services of a special nurse in certain specified cases of infectious diseases are available under arrangements made between the Local and County Nursing Associations and the County Council.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Persons suffering from venereal diseases are treated at Northampton General Hospital by arrangement with the County Public Health Department.

The County Council is the authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis, and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held in Kettering and children from Kettering Rural District may attend by arrangement with the County Public Health Department.

Under the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in Corby.

(e) HOSPITALS.

The following hospitals are available for inhabitants of Kettering Rural District :—

Kettering Infectious Diseases Joint Hospital.

Rushden House Sanatorium.

Kettering and District General Hospital.

London Road Public Assistance Hospital.

Leicester Royal Infirmary.

Northampton General Hospital.

Manfield Orthopædic Hospital.

Market Harborough General Hospital.

SECTIONS C AND E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

REPORT BY SAMUEL WALLIS, A.R.San.I.

WATER SUPPLY. During 1937 there was no scarcity of water in this District. At Corby new mains were laid to supply the 530 Houses on Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds' Nos. 7 and 8 Estates. The mains were also extended to take proposed houses on the following estates :—Sturgess & Co., Rockingham Road, Drury & Co. and Richmonds, Cottingham Road. The proposed additional water tower and filtration plant are in hand. The water supply to Cranford has been completed, and appears to be satisfactory. It is to be extended to supply Grafton Underwood.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The sewers were extended to Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds Nos. 7 and 8 Estates. The extensions to the Sewage Farm and land for sludge treatment are in progress.

The Septic Tanks at 17 Villages were cleaned out.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. The complaint as to trade refuse into the Weldon brook was dealt with by Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds cleaning out the brook.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. Scavenging hard refuse is carried out at Broughton, Cranford, Cransley, Geddington, Newton, Grafton Underwood, Gretton, Loddington, Pytchley, Rushton and Weldon. Night soil is collected at Geddington, Gretton, Rushton and Weldon.

SMOKE ABATEMENT. Corby is the only place where there is any nuisance, but the Company concerned have greatly improved the conditions there.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE. There is a public convenience for both sexes at Corby.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Six tenants in Corby complained of bed bugs. Disinfestation, which included stripping woodwork and wallpapers, sulphur fumigation and application of a blow lamp to crevices was done by the owners of the property. No case of bed bug infestation occurred in a Council House.

SANITARY INSPECTION WORK CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA. All premises were inspected where a case of Infectious Disease occurred. All Bakehouses, Factories and Workshops were inspected. The following nuisances were dealt with :—

Privies converted to Water Closets	...	9
Pails converted to Water Closets	...	9
Drains cleared	... ..	70
Offensive accumulations removed	...	10
Pumps and Wells repaired	... ..	8
Roofs repaired	... ..	60
Animals improperly kept	... ..	10
Drains relaid	... ..	40
Water connections	... ..	390
Water analysed	... ..	16
Miscellaneous defects remedied	... ..	52

No legal proceedings were taken, 7 preliminary notices proving satisfactory.

Numerous visits were paid to caravans, and two sites at Corby were cleared by the landlords.

There is only one offensive trade, a knacker's yard, situate in an isolated position, which is satisfactory.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT. Poison baits have periodically been laid on the refuse dumps and sewage disposal works in the area.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. The following table gives an account of the work done under this Act :

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. made. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	23	...	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	44	...	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	21	...	...
Total	88	Nil	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness ...	8	8	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation ...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	1	1	...	...
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	...	...
Other nuisances ...	3	3	...	..
Sanitary accommodation				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	...	...	..	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground Bake- houses (s.101)... ..	Nil			
Other offences	Nil			
(Excluding offences re- lating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Total	15	15	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY. The Veterinary Inspector's Annual Report to the Joint Committee is included in this Report. Samples of milk forwarded to the County Council for testing for cleanliness, showed that out of 60 samples submitted 8 were moderate, 10 were bad, and the remainder were good.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following table shows the number of animals inspected, and a classification of the diseases discovered, all diseased meat being voluntarily destroyed :—

	Cattle (excluding Cows.)	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number inspected ...	369	164	10	1,400	878
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	2	6	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	6	—	10	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	1.1 ⁰ / ₀	4.3 ⁰ / ₀	20 ⁰ / ₀	1.1 ⁰ / ₀	1.8 ⁰ / ₀
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	2	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	17	—	—	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.6 ⁰ / ₀	11.6 ⁰ / ₀	—	—	0.9 ⁰ / ₀

Number of visits made to slaughterhouses ...	539
Number of slaughterhouses in use in the district ...	18
Number of licensed slaughtermen in the district ...	37

FRIED FISH SHOPS. There are four of these shops in the district. They were regularly inspected.

BAKEHOUSES. There are twenty-five bakehouses in use in the area, all of which were regularly inspected. Limewashing was carried out as required, and six other defects received attention as a result of these inspections.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Building continues in the District, and the following table shows plans approved :—

Broughton	...	...	...	3
Corby	...	...	...	439
Weldon	...	...	...	27
Geddington	...	...	...	8
Other Villages	...	...	...	47
				<hr/> 524 <hr/>

Land was acquired to erect fourteen houses at Cottingham and five at Geddington for people from condemned houses.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	395
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					826
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulation, 1925						21
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					78
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	49
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation						191

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their Officers	191
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	82
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	53
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	13
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
(d) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1935—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		24
(2) Number of families dwelling therein		25
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein		161½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		11
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		15
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...		111½
(d) Number of cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding		Nil

SECTION F.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases, excluding tuberculosis, notified during the year was 72. This figure shows an increase of 3 on the number for 1936, and compares with 69 for 1935, 36 for 1934, 58 for 1933, 37 for 1932, and 48 for 1931.

An analysis of the notified cases appears in the following tables :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1937.

	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 3 yrs.	3 and under 4 yrs.	4 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 yrs.	10 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 20 yrs.	20 and under 35 yrs.	35 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over	Total Cases removed Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	18	1
Scarlet Fever	4	1
Diphtheria
Enteric Fever
(including Paratyphoid)
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	...
Pneumonia
Erysipelas
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Dysentery
	72	2	3	5	1	7	16	5	3	12	4	11	3	26	6

NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED FROM
DIFFERENT PARISHES IN THE DISTRICT, IN 1937.

		Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Total
Barton Seagrave	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Broughton	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3
Corby	—	18	3	—	3	21	1	1	—	—	1	48
Cottingham	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
East Carlton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Geddington	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Grafton Underwood	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gretton	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	6
Loddington	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Orton	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Rushton	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Thorpe Malsor	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Warkton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Weldon	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	—	25	6	—	5	28	4	1	1	1	1	72

The number of notifications of each disease received per month varied from 3 in August to 14 in February, as shown below :—

NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED EACH MONTH
DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Month.		Small pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid).	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Total
January	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5
February	—	1	—	—	1	9	1	1	—	—	1	14
March	—	1	1	—	—	7	—	—	—	1	—	10
April	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	5
May	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
June	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
July	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
August	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
September	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
October	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	4
November	—	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	8
December	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
Total	—	25	6	—	5	28	4	1	1	1	1	72

SMALLPOX. No case of this disease occurred in the Rural District during the year ending 1937.

SCARLET FEVER. Twenty-five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified showing a decrease of 11 on the number for the preceding year ; 18 were removed to hospital. The remainder were nursed at home under favourable conditions. Nineteen or 76 per cent. were children of school age.

The disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

The largest number of notifications in any one month was 5 in June.

Eighteen or 72 per cent. of the cases occurred in the Parish of Corby where almost two-thirds of the total population of the District is located.

Scarlet Fever antitoxin is available to practitioners free of charge for the treatment of necessitous cases of scarlet fever.

DIPHTHERIA. The notifications numbered 6 which shows an increase of 1 on the number for the previous year. Suspicious cases may be verified by bacteriological examination. For this purpose swab outfits are supplied to medical practitioners and specimens examined by the Clinical Research Association, London, and at the Northampton General Hospital Bacteriological Department, are reported on at the expense of the local authority.

All the cases were children of school age. Four were removed to hospital.

There were no deaths.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied free to practitioners for use in necessitous cases of diphtheria treated at home or prior to removal to hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER (including Paratyphoid). No case of this disease was notified throughout the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. During the year 5 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, 2 of which were removed to hospital.

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia requiring treatment are admitted to Kettering and District General Hospital or to Northampton General Hospital.

The services of a consulting obstetrician are made available to medical practitioners, by the Northamptonshire County Council, for patients unable to afford a specialist's fee.

PNEUMONIA. Twenty-eight cases or 39 per cent. of the total notifications were due to this cause, being an increase of 14 on the numbers for the preceding year.

Twenty-one were males and 7 were females. Of the males 16 were between the ages of 15 and 65 years and 11 of these were notified from the Parish of Corby.

There were 5 deaths of which 2 were children under 2 years of age and 1 was a female of 75 years.

ERYSIPELAS. The notifications of this disease were 4 in number. All the cases were treated at home. There were no deaths.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER. The one case notified recovered in hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. One case was notified during the year, and was treated in hospital.

CASES			Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
1	—	1	1	—	—	—

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA. One case was notified during the year. The case died after notification.

DYSENTERY. One case, an ex-sailor, was notified from another District. He disappeared a few days after being visited and left no address.

CHICKENPOX, MEASLES, GERMAN MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, MUMPS. These diseases are not notifiable.

An outbreak of Influenza occurred at Gretton School in the early part of the year.

The following is a SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS CASES TREATED IN KETTERING ISOLATION HOSPITAL, and the number of admissions each month :

Disease			In Hospital Jan. 1st, 1937	Admitted during 1937	Discharged during 1937	Died	In Hospital Jan. 1938
Scarlet Fever	—	18	17	—	1
Diphtheria	—	3	3	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	1	—	—
Total	—	22	21	—	1

Month.			Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Cerebro- Spinal Fever
January	...	...	3	—	—
February	...	...	1	—	1
March	...	...	—	—	—
April	...	...	1	—	—
May	...	...	1	1	—
June	...	...	4	—	—
July	...	...	3	—	—
August	...	...	1	2	—
September	...	...	1	—	—
October	...	...	1	—	—
November	...	...	1	—	—
December	...	...	1	—	—
Total	...	...	18	3	1

TUBERCULOSIS. The following figures show the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1937 :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	31	32	63
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	15	23
			86

Sixteen cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 7 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1937 as compared with 8 cases and 5 cases respectively in 1936.

According to the Registrar-General's returns 1 death resulted from pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. These figures differ slightly from those locally compiled as shown in the following table :—

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	..
15	...	...	2	6	...	2	...	...	...	1
25	...	...	2	1	1	...	1	...	1	...
35	...	...	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	7	9	1	6	1	...	1	1

Death rate from all forms of tuberculosis per 1,000 population was 0·23 as compared with 0·52 for 1936, 0·37 in 1935, 0·62 in 1934, and 0·62 in 1933.

The occupations of certain of the cases at the time of notification were :—

Housewives	...	...	...	8
Shoe Operatives	...	...	...	3
Labourers	...	...	...	5
Engineer	...	...	...	1
School Children	...	...	...	2
Woodman	...	...	...	1
Clothing Operatives	...	...	...	3

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1925. These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis from engaging in the milk trade. It was unnecessary to take action under these Regulations during 1937.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62. No action was taken under this Section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis, which is a serious risk to others, may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

KETTERING, ETC., JOINT COMMITTEE RE DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, ETC.

ANNUAL REPORT OF VETERINARY INSPECTOR, 1937.

Gentlemen,

I beg to report that during the year ended 31st December, 1937, inspections and re-inspections of premises in the occupation of registered cowkeepers have been made to the number of 608, and of dairy cows in milk to the number of 7,503, an increase as compared with the previous year of four premises and 340 animals.

Of the 608 premises inspected, 129 are in the occupation of Accredited producers, and 479 are in respect of non-accredited herds.

The following is a list of the sanitary or veterinary defects met with during the year, set out under the several headings of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 :—

Diseased or deranged udders, Accredited Herds	...	58
Diseased or deranged udders, Non-Accredited Herds	...	75
Cows detected and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925	... ..	14
General cleanliness deficient	... ..	8
Cleanliness of animals neglected	... ..	20
Limewashing required	... ..	8
Accumulated manure	... ..	15
Insufficient natural light	... ..	1
Floors requiring cleansing or repair	... ..	13
Other repairs to buildings needed	... ..	5
Cooling unsatisfactory	... ..	1
Samples of milk sent for Bacteriological Test	...	116

Of the fourteen cows dealt with and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, on post-mortem examination ten were found to be affected to an advanced degree and in four cases the disease was not advanced. Of these fourteen cases of open tuberculosis, seven were discovered during routine inspection and the remainder were reported by owners as suspected cases.

The number of diseased or deranged udders (133) is somewhat less than those of the previous year (145). Samples of milk from udders showing suspicious evidence of tuberculosis have been sent to the laboratory for examination, of which only two were shown to contain tubercle bacilli.

The whole of the diseased or deranged udders except those affected with tuberculosis were due to acute or chronic mastitis, wounds or teat eruptions, abscesses or injuries, and owners were invariably warned against the sale of milk in these cases, pending recovery.

The number of premises concerning which the general sanitary conditions were bad or unsatisfactory was 64, as compared with 74 and 65 respectively in the two previous years. The practice carried out by the Sanitary Officials of submitting samples of market milk for bacteriological examination has been continued on a progressively larger scale with, I think I may say, less satisfactory or convincing results to the Committee.

This is due to the substitution of the methylene blue reaction test in place of the bacterial plate count formerly employed, bacteriologists having decided that the last-named possesses a very wide margin of error.

Examination of the reports on the last 284 samples forwarded to the Laboratory for examination for bacterial contamination shows that 154 have been certified as good, 20 as moderate and 110 as bad.

Practically the whole of the samples certified as bad, however, are confined to those examined during the hot summer months, the index rising or falling consistently in accordance with the seasonal temperatures.

It is acknowledged, I think, that whereas the methylene blue test is less faulty than the previous bacterial count, there is, at present, no very satisfactory method of estimating the practical importance of bacterial contamination of samples of market milk which must, of necessity, be taken under ordinary commercial conditions as regard temperatures, transport, utensils, etc., so that the results, whether good, bad or indifferent, can be regarded as an approximate guide to hygienic quality.

The number of producers of accredited milk is now 34, and of non-accredited owners, 118.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), TREVOR F. SPENCER, M.R.C.V.S.

March, 1938.

